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RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

[*on the report of the Third Committee (A/52/637)*]

52/97. Violence against women migrant workers

The General Assembly,

Recalling all previous resolutions on violence against women migrant workers adopted by the General Assembly, the Commission on the Status of Women, the Commission on Human Rights and the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, as well as the Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women,[1]

Reaffirming the outcome of the World Conference on Human Rights, held at Vienna from 14 to 25 June 1993,[2] the International Conference on Population and Development,[3] the World Summit for Social Development[4] and the Fourth World Conference on Women,[5] specifically as the results pertain to women migrant workers,

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[1] Resolution 48/104.

[2] See A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

[3] See *Report of the International Conference on Population and Development, Cairo, 5-13 September 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.95.XIII.18).

[4] See *Report of the World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen, 6-12 March 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.8).

[5] See *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4-15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13).

Emphasizing the need for accurate, objective and comprehensive information, as well as for a wide exchange of experiences and lessons learned by individual countries in protecting and promoting the rights and welfare of women migrant workers for policy formulation and joint action,

Acknowledging the results of the Expert Group Meeting on Violence against Women Migrant Workers, held at Manila from 27 to 31 May 1996, and the comments thereon by Member States and relevant international organizations,

Noting the large numbers of women from developing countries and some countries with economies in transition who continue to venture forth to more affluent countries in search of a living for themselves and their families as a consequence of poverty, unemployment and other socio-economic conditions, and acknowledging the duty of the sending States to work for conditions that provide employment and security to their citizens,

Acknowledging the economic benefits that accrue to sending and receiving States from the employment of women migrant workers,

Recognizing the importance of joint and collaborative approaches at the bilateral, regional, interregional and international levels in protecting and promoting the rights and welfare of women migrant workers,

Underlining the important role of relevant United Nations treaty bodies in monitoring the implementation of human rights conventions and the relevant special procedures, within their respective mandates, in addressing the problem of violence against women migrant workers and in protecting and promoting their rights and welfare,

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General on violence against women migrant workers;[6]

2. *Encourages* concerned Governments, in particular those of sending and receiving countries, to develop, as appropriate, systematic data collection methods and to update and share information on violence against women migrant workers;

3. *Urges* concerned Governments, in particular those of sending and receiving countries, to strengthen their national efforts to protect and promote the rights and welfare of women migrant workers, including through sustained bilateral, regional, interregional and international cooperation, by developing strategies and joint action and by taking into account the innovative approaches and experiences of individual Member States;

4. *Also urges* concerned Governments, in particular those of sending and receiving countries, to support and allocate appropriate resources for programmes aimed at strengthening preventive action, in particular information for relevant target groups and education and campaigns to increase public awareness of this issue at the national and grassroots levels, in cooperation with non-governmental organizations;

5. *Encourages* concerned Governments, in particular those of sending and receiving countries, to support training programmes for public officials dealing with the problem of violence against women migrant workers, in particular law enforcers, to assist women migrant workers who are victims of violence, to provide, in the reporting of such cases and the prosecution of the perpetrators, adequate consular, counselling, legal and welfare services and to consider adopting appropriate legal measures against intermediaries who deliberately encourage the clandestine movement of workers and who exploit women migrant workers;

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[6] A/52/356.

6. *Encourages* Member States to consider signing and ratifying or acceding to the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families,[7] as well as the Slavery Convention of 1926;[8]

7. *Invites* all relevant United Nations human rights treaty bodies, in particular the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, relevant thematic and country rapporteurs, in particular the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on violence against women, its causes and consequences, the Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities and its working groups, within their respective mandates, to address the problem of violence against women migrant workers in their deliberations and findings, with a view to promoting and protecting their rights and welfare;

8. *Invites* the Commission on the Status of Women to address the issue of violence against women migrant workers at its forty-second session under the thematic issues on violence against women and/or human rights of women;

9. *Invites* the Economic and Social Council and the Commission on Human Rights, at their sessions in 1998, to address the protection and promotion of the rights and welfare of women migrant workers in connection with the five-year review of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action[2] and the commemoration of the fiftieth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights;[9]

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-fourth session a comprehensive report on the problem of violence against women migrant workers, taking into account the views of Member States and based on the expertise and all available information from the organizations of the United Nations system, in particular the International Labour Organization, the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Development Fund for Women, the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women, the International Organization for Migration and other relevant sources, including non-governmental organizations, as well as to report on the implementation of the present resolution.

70th plenary meeting
12 December 1997

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[7] Resolution 45/158, annex.

[8] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 212, No. 2861.

[9] Resolution 217 A (III).